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Ten Years near the German Frontier: a Retrospect and a Warning. By Maurice Francis Egan, former United States Minister to Denmark. (New York: George H. Doran Company. 1919. Pp. 364. \$3.00.)

In 1907 Mr. Maurice Francis Egan was sent to Copenhagen as the American representative at the Danish court, where he remained till 1918. Since his return he has published a book in which he reviews his experiences during these ten momentous years in "the whispering gallery of Europe". As Mr. Egan is also an honored citizen of the republic of letters, it was to be expected that he would give us a lively, interesting, and finished work, and in this we have not been disappointed; there is not a dull paragraph in the volume. In Copenhagen the author entertained and conversed with a variety of supposedly important personages—princes, diplomats, intellectuals, clergymen, revolutionists, and many other sorts—all of them interesting in varying degrees. He has repeated some of these conversations and with astonishing fidelity, even to the free use of quotation marks, which the reviewer hopes are not to be taken too seriously.

Mr. Egan's principal theme is the ambition of Germany to secure a more dominating leadership in the European world. He deals quite circumstantially with the German propaganda in the northern countries: he shows how the Scandinavian intellectuals were assiduously cultivated, how Germany strove to keep the northern kingdoms apart in their foreign policies, and how the ancient fear of Russia was systematically nourished and intensified. He discusses at length the efforts made, through judicious use of ecclesiastical influences, to prevent the Americanization of German emigrants. On the Catholic side these plans were defeated by the determined opposition of the Irish-American bishops led by the late Archbishop Ireland. On this matter the author may be presumed to speak with authority; but when he asserts that the Swedish Lutherans of the West were "segregated under the direction of German-educated pastors" (p. 167), he speaks without information.

It was during Mr. Egan's last years in Copenhagen, and largely due to his untiring efforts, that our government finally succeeded in purchasing the Virgin Islands. In this transaction he naturally takes great pride; he relates quite circumstantially how the negotiations were carried forward to a successful issue, and how the Danish electorate after a most bitter fight was induced to ratify the agreement. He also includes a useful appendix containing a series of documents relating to earlier efforts to purchase these islands.

It seems ungenerous to close a review of a book so enjoyable and so informing with a list of imperfections; but in this case the list, running from the preface to the closing chapter, is too long to be passed over in silence. Queen Caroline Matilda was a daughter not a "sister of the second George of England" (p. 24). As Holstein was never a

part of the Danish kingdom, it is scarcely accurate to speak of Sleswick-Holstein as "the Alsace-Lorraine question in Denmark" (p. 26). It was clause V., not clause L., of the treaty of Prague that Prussia set aside in 1878 (p. 32). Prince Olav of Norway appears in the list of illustrations as Prince Ferdinand. Algeria (p. 59) is evidently an error for Algeciras. Prince Hans was the uncle not "the elder brother of Frederick VIII." (p. 228). Struense, Brandès, Svendsen (p. 241), Zeeland, and Morgenstjern should be written Struensee, Brandes, Swenson, Zealand, and Morgenstjerne. The reviewer has noted some twenty other errors, chiefly in the forms of proper names, most of which should probably be charged to careless or unintelligent proof-reading.

Laurence M. Larson.

National Governments and the World War. By Frederick A. Ogg, Professor of Political Science in the University of Wisconsin, and Charles A. Beard, Director of the Bureau of Municipal Research, New York City. (New York: Macmillan Company. 1919. Pp. viii, 603. \$2.50.)

This new volume, by two authors well known through their earlier publications and able to speak with the authority of experience and matured judgment, meets the need of an up-to-date text for a course on comparative government, and will prove valuable as a brief presentation of the political background of the war.

In material it is largely identical with portions of the two earlier volumes, Beard's American Government and Politics (1910) and Ogg's Governments of Europe (1913). Its chief new material appears in the introduction (ch. I.) on National Ideals and Government, in chapters VII. and VIII. on Our Democracy and Government in War Time, in chapters XV. and XVI. (by Dr. Ogg) on English Economic and Social Issues (13 pages) and Greater Britain: the Self-governing Colonies (20 pages), and in the two concluding chapters on the War and Political Reconstruction—one (ch. XXVII.) on American War Aims in Relation to Government by Dr. Beard, and the other (ch. XXVIII.) on the Problem of International Government by Dr. Ogg. It devotes to American federal government about 165 pages, or 262 pages less than Dr. Beard's earlier volume which also included an additional 327 pages on American state governments. It does not contain chapters IV.-VII. and XV.-XXXII. of the earlier book. To European governments it devotes 391 pages (270 pages to the four chief allied nations and 121 to the two Teutonic states)—a total of 255 pages less space than Ogg's earlier volume gives to all the European governments except the Russian, Turkish, and Balkan.

The volume emphasizes the effect of political institutions upon the character and progress of peoples—the relations of government to individual and social welfare. One chief purpose is to show modifications